

A1
cont'd

wherein a narrow shallow groove inclined in the opposite direction with respect to each main lug groove is disposed in a central region of the tread portion in its width direction for connecting each main lug groove located in the opposing tread shoulder regions, and

wherein a shallow groove portion is formed in a shoulder end region inside each main lug groove.

Please add the following new claims:

7. (New) The pneumatic tire according to claim 1, wherein each of the main lug grooves has a bending point.

A2

8. (New) A pneumatic tire having a tread pattern in which main lug grooves are disposed in opposing shoulder regions of a tread portion at a predetermined pitch in a circumferential direction of a tire, the main lug grooves being so arranged as to provide circumferential phase difference between the opposing tread shoulder regions,

wherein a narrow shallow groove is disposed in a central region of the tread portion in its width direction for connecting each main lug groove located in the opposing tread shoulder regions, and

wherein a shallow groove portion is formed in a shoulder end region inside each main lug groove,

wherein groove depth of the narrow shallow groove is set in a range of 15 to 25% of groove depth of the main lug groove.